



CITY OF LODI FIRE DEPARTMENT



PLACES OF ASSEMBLY General Regulations and Guidelines

- **Occupancy Load Sign** - Businesses with **50 or more persons** gathered together for the purpose of food or drink consumption, social or religious functions, recreation or instruction are **required** to post an occupancy load sign. The sign shall include the occupant capacity of the room and be **posted** in a conspicuous place near the main exit from the room. Failure to comply with occupant capacity requirements shall be cause for a citation to be issued or closure of the business. California Fire Code, Sections 105 and 2501.16.1.
- **Overcrowding**- Admittance of persons beyond the approved and posted occupant capacity is **prohibited**. Business management is responsible for obtaining a continuous and accurate **occupant tally**. An Administrative Citation may be assessed per **violation or closure of the business until violation is rectified**. California Fire Code, Section 2501.16.3
- **Exit Doors**- Shall **swing in the direction of the path of exit travel**. Exit doors shall be openable from the inside without the use of a key or any special knowledge or effort. Exit doors **shall not** be locked, chained, bolted, barred, latched or otherwise rendered unusable. Exit doors shall not be provided with a latch or lock unless it is panic hardware. **Exception:** The main exit door, or one leaf of a pair of main exit doors, may be provided with a key-locking device, provided a readily visible sign is adjacent to the doorway stating **“THIS DOOR MUST REMAIN UNLOCKED DURING BUSINESS HOURS”**. California Fire Code, Sections 1207.2, 1207.3 and 2501.8.2.
- **Exit Signs**- Shall be readily visible from any direction of approach. Exit signs shall be internally or externally **illuminated**. In case of primary power loss, exit signs must remain illuminated for duration of not less than 1½ hours by being connected to batteries or emergency generator. **Exception:** Approved self-luminous signs that provide continuous illumination independent of an external power source. California Fire Code, Sections 1212.2, 1212.4, and 1212.5.
- **Emergency Lighting**- Businesses with an occupant capacity of 100 or more shall be provided with emergency lighting. California Fire Code, Section, 1212.4, California Building Code, Section 1003.2.9.1 and 1003.2.9.2
- **Means of Egress**- Shall not be obstructed in any manner and shall remain free of any material or matter where its presence would obstruct or render the means of egress hazardous. California Fire Code, Section 1203
- **Decorative Materials** – Drapes, curtains, hangings and other decorative materials shall be flame resistant. California Fire Code, Section 1103.3.3 and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Section 3.08
-

Candle and Other Open-Flame Decorative Device Permit- Only approved candles and open-flame devices and an annual **Fire Department Permit** is **required**. Facilities which rent out space for weddings, gathering, etc. shall have candles **approved for each event**. California Fire Code, Sections 25.01.17 and 1109.8

- **Fireworks, Pyrotechnics and Flame Special Effects** - Are **prohibited**. **Exception:** A Fire Department Permit is **required**, a **licensed** pyrotechnician must conduct the display and a Fire Safety Officer must be **present** during the display. California Fire Code, Sections 105 and 7801.3
- **Fire Protection Systems and Equipment** – A rated **2A 10BC fire extinguisher** is required with a maximum travel distance of 75 feet to any portion of the building. Multiple extinguishers may be required depending on the size of the building, wall configurations and other features increasing travel distance. Extinguishers are required to be mounted 3 to 5 feet above floor and shall be serviced annually by a licensed fire extinguisher service company. Facilities with cooking capability shall have an approved type Hood & Duct fire extinguishing system which shall be serviced semi-annually. A 40BC extinguisher is required if unit is not a UL 300 system and cooking with animal fat oil. A “K” type extinguisher is required if cooking with vegetable oil or a type 300 extinguishing system. All new Hood & Duct systems, systems which have been altered or had additions are required to be UL 300. The State Fire Marshal is currently setting regulations where as all Hood & Duct system will be required to be UL 300 as well as existing to be retrofitted to current standards. California Code of Regulations Title 19, Division 1, Chapters 1 and 3